

## History and Description of Notable Military Res- creation at Salt Lake

One of the oldest and most notable military reservations in the West is Fort Douglas, which lies adjacent to Salt Lake City. It was established in October, 1862, by General P. E. Connor, commanding the Second and Third California volunteers, and was rebuilt in 1875-76 by the Fourteenth United States Infantry, led by John E. Smith, commander. The original area of the reservation was formally taken from the public domain by executive order September 3, 1897, and comprised 2560 acres. From time to time this area has been changed by grants to Salt Lake City and individuals, and extensive additions for water conservation and military purposes. Today there are 5243 acres in the reservation.

Fort Douglas occupies a position commanding a sweeping view of the Great Salt Lake valley. Its boundaries embrace a vast level plain, which rises to an elevation of 4904 feet at the outskirts of Salt Lake City in the form of a high bench, and a number of rugged and picturesque canyons extending into the lower slopes of the Wasatch mountains. The plot has been designed to provide a convenient location of buildings, barracks and ranges, all of which are made easily accessible by splendidly built and maintained driveways and paths. Much attention has been given to beautifying the post, with the result that every structure is amply protected by large shade trees and made attractive by lawns and flower beds. The erection of Fort Douglas, in October, 1862, was the outgrowth of the determination of the United States Government to afford the people of Utah protection from hostile Indians and the need of a permanent military post at a central point in a great territory.

### Notable Residents.

In its history it has been visited by some of the most distinguished officers of the United States army, including General P. E. Connor, Phil Sheridan, William Tecumseh Sherman, Nelson A. Miles and Col. H. M. Merriam. The post was commanded from January to March, 1870, by Col. John Gibbon, Seventh infantry, now a brevet major-general. On August 17, 1872, one troop of the Second cavalry and two companies of the Thirteenth infantry, in command of Col. H. M. Merriam, left the post in pursuit of hostile Indians and returned September 7, after a successful expedition without casualties. Among the later prominent military men at Fort Douglas was Lieut. Col. E. H. Liscum, Twenty-fourth infantry, who was killed during the demonstration of the allied forces before Peking in 1900. Lieut. Col. Liscum was stationed at the post in the fall of 1897, and went subsequently to serve in the Philippine campaign, in which he distinguished himself. The commander of the post, during Lieut. Col. Liscum's residence, was Col. J. Forney Kent, who was assigned in 1898 to the volunteer forces of the United States as a brigadier-general. Colonel Kent commanded the first division of the Philippine campaign and served through the Cuban campaign under General Shafter. He was a colleague of Gen. Joe Wheeler, Woods and Lawton.

### Fifteenth Infantry.

Fort Douglas is now headquarters for the Fifteenth Infantry, which returned on December 17, after two years of service in the Philippine islands under command of Col. Walter

S. Scott. The present garrison numbers 45 officers and 670 men, including field musicians. There are no finer specimens of the American soldier in the country. The men have seen the most difficult of field operations in Samar and are trained soldiers in the highest sense of the term. Their officers are mostly veterans of active war campaigns and have succeeded in bringing the Fifteenth up to a satisfactory standard of military efficiency. The regiment will remain at Fort Douglas for three years.

The soldiers will participate frequently in the various drills which are ordered by the regulations of the War Department. These consist of the dress parade, competitive drill, heavy marching order and other show and forced operations designed for the purpose of keeping the troops fit for field service. Monday and Friday, weather permitting, will afford the people of Salt Lake City an opportunity to witness a grand and impressive military spectacle. In addition, the Fifteenth infantry band will occasionally arrange musical programmes, which will attract large crowds to the grass-covered concourse at Officers' row.

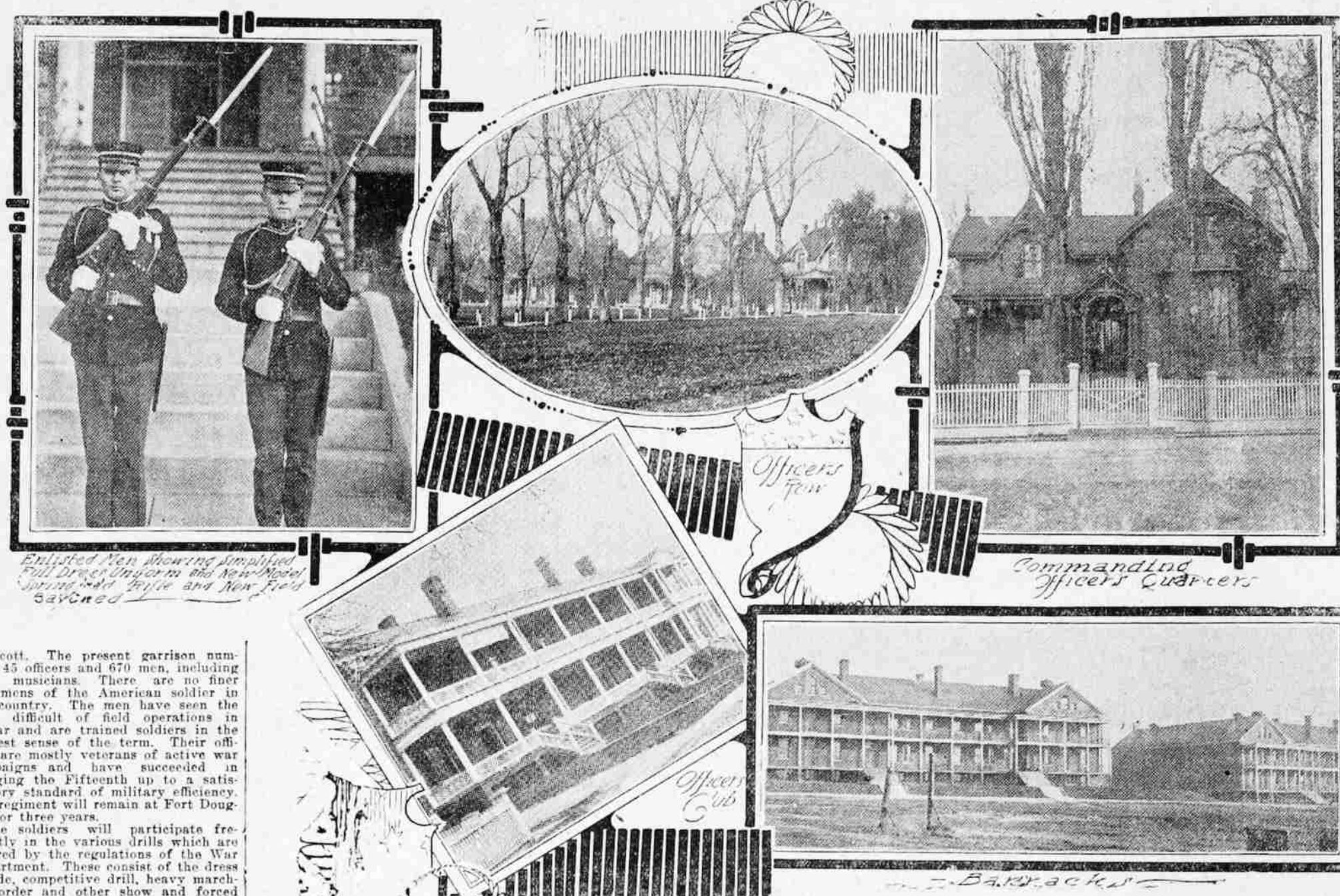
### Arrangement of Post.

Post headquarters are located on the main drive at the right terminus of

# FORT DOUGLAS

ESTABLISHED OCTOBER, 1862, BY GENERAL P. E. CONNOR.

## View of Picturesque Social and Military Life of Uncle Sam's Troops



the Fort Douglas ca. me. Opposite the south, the post church. Back of the barracks officer's quarters is the hospital and several officers' residences, which are about to give way to newer and more substantial structures. Be-

hind headquarters are the old barracks, which are now used principally for the storage of band instruments, rehearsal hall and emergency purposes. The old barracks face the upper parade at the head of which is Officers' row, planned in the form of a semi-circle.

There are 15 residences on the row, which have been provided for married officers and their families. The row is one of the most picturesque spots at the post. It is fronted by a large lawn, which is cut up into irregularly-shaped plots by paved sidewalks.

A wide, paved walk, lined on either side by splendid and mighty trees, leads to the bandstand, which faces the parade. Back of Officers' row are the old barracks quarters and the tennis court.

The troops are quartered in three three-story brick double barracks, which are located south of the parade. Nearby are the stables and, back of the barracks, the quartermaster's and commissary storage buildings. Further back are located a number of gunsheds for the housing of field artillery pieces.

A brick gymnasium and library and a brick gunhouse, one of the most fully equipped in the country, complete the roster of principal buildings.

### Glimpses of Army Life.

It is a popular belief that the American soldier is lazy, but this is untrue, because he is given no opportunity to be other than industrious. Every being both winter and summer. An officer is assigned to duty as commander of the post every day, while his brothers are kept busy with duty at court martial, examinations and other work that is essential to military efficiency. The soldiers are inspected almost daily in some way and participate in drills and marches of every description. A guard, which is kept day and night, requires a large number of men for a service which is not entirely pleasant. Four times during the night an officer has to make the rounds of the entire reservation to see that the guard is properly kept and this duty falls, in turn, upon every officer. Several times during the year, large covered marches are made with the troops equipped for the heaviest field work. Every officer is required to ride thirty miles a day for three consecutive days once a year. Target practice occurs frequently, once a year for two days in succession, under absolute winter conditions with heavy snowfall. The soldiers, of course, are given hours of recreation, but these are granted with a view to fortifying the men against susceptibility to the frailties of humanity. A well-stocked library is located in the gymnasium building and examination of the titles of books shows that the majority have been selected for the purpose of appealing to the highest nature of the soldier. By characterizing such men as Christ, Lord Nelson, Abraham Lincoln, William McKinley and others, whose lives were examples of the truest manhood.

### Socially.

The existence of a large army post invariably adds to the social atmosphere of a city. Officers are ever popular guests and their manner of showing appreciation of courtesies is inimitable. All over the country the army is looked upon as the highest social class. At Fort Douglas are no exceptions to the rule. The post is provided with a large dance pavilion which affords the best floor in Salt Lake City. During the winter months the pavilion is quite frequently and there is nothing more attractive than a hundred whirling, happy couples, women in decollete gowns of every color and style, their escorts in the conventional black evening dress and the hosts in bright, but modest and tasteful, mess uniforms.

The officers occasionally give dinners to citizen friends and these affairs are among the most successful social events of the city. And, though the social happenings in the officers' circle are, perhaps, important, the modest entertainments by the enlisted men are of no mean importance. It is not infrequent that an officer is the honor guest at the mess of his company and there are times when a number of officers are entertained by the enlisted men of several companies. In addition, citizens, who number friends among the soldiers at the fort, sometimes partake of the very excellent provender provided by Uncle Sam.

## EVERY INDUSTRY BUT ONE HAS BEEN UNUSUALLY ACTIVE.

The year just coming to a close has been most prosperous in the history of Montana, and yet it is regarded only as a harbinger of the future. With the exception of curtailment of copper production in the Butte district, every industry has experienced the greatest known activity, and has been conducted at an unprecedented profit. Greater strides have been made perhaps in the agricultural industries than any other. The curtailment in the Butte district is looked upon as of only a temporary nature, yet the universal opinion is that it is only a matter of a few years when the agricultural products of the State will eclipse those of the mines, up to this time the chief industry of the State.

Unprecedented progress has been made in farming of every description. Both the irrigated and arable dry farming processes are used, the latter where only the natural rain fall is available. A practical illustration of this is to be seen in the fact that the lands along the valleys, which three and four years ago sold for \$5 an acre, are now worth from \$25 to \$30, and in great demand. It has been demonstrated beyond question that these lands will produce practically every known grain, and the yield per acre thereto has been most surprising indeed. No better illustration of these conditions could be found than the exhibits at the State fair this fall. So bountiful and generous were the products that the exhibits excited universal admiration and proved "eye openers" even to the Montanians. This also was true of the fruits and vegetables.

### Dry Land Wheat Crops.

It is a matter of record that the dry land wheat crops average from twenty-five to fifty bushels an acre, and that as much as a thousand dollars an acre was realized from the growth of strawberries, and that Eastern commission merchants were the most eager of buyers for the entire apple crop of the Root and Flathead valleys.

Naturally the irrigated lands are more valuable, because of the large crops raised, but it is quite evident that the dry land farming process will give the irrigatists a pretty race ere the finish. Alfred Atkinson, agronomist at the Montana experiment station, has compared an article on dry land farming, which is most interesting. The following is an excerpt therefrom: "The experience of dry land farmers throughout this state this year has been such as to encourage the breaking up and cropping of the non-irrigated lands. In many sections farmers who had invested heavily in heavy lands have been enabled to meet all of their payments out of their dry land crop returns this year. The season on the experimental dry farms conducted in different parts of the State of Montana experiment station has closed and the returns for the year have been compiled. These show that in most sections the returns have been very satisfactory and also show that the season has not been so abnormally high in the amount of precipitation as is generally believed.

On the Rosebud county farm, near Forsyth, spring wheat yielded 31.1 bushels to the acre, oats 53.56 bushels

to the acre, barley 33.3 bushels to the acre, and Turkey Red fall wheat 58.17 bushels to the acre. The spring wheat was of the macaroni variety, the oats of the variety called "white hulls." Among the other crops, potatoes gave a return of 160.7 bushels to the acre, and sugar beets 6.28 tons to the acre. All of these yields are very satisfactory, in fact, in most instances are especially high. The Turkey Red wheat, which gave a return of upward of 59 bushels to the acre, was of the highest quality and rated as No. 1 on the market.

"At the Dawson county station, Glendive, the yield of spring wheat was 20 bushels, of oats 26 bushels, of barley 16 bushels and of spring rye 17.4 bushels. While these yields do not come up to those reported from Rosebud county, yet when it is remembered that these Glendive returns were gained on land that had not received the previous year's cultivation, we are led to the conclusion that the returns are quite good. As good returns in Dawson county are looked for as for any other part of the State after the one year's cultivation.

"In Yellowstone county, at the station north of Billings, spring wheat yielded 37.63 bushels to the acre, oats 32.70 bushels, barley 39.37 bushels, and spring rye 23.35 bushels.

"In the Milk River valley on the dry farm north of Harlow, Montana, fall wheat yielded 37.18 bushels, fall rye 23.61 bushels, spring wheat 28.60 bushels, oats 4.50 bushels, and potatoes 67.97 bushels to the acre.

"On the Shelby farm, in Teton county, yields, though not quite so high as on other farms, were gained on account of the fact that it had been newly broken, and consequently we must conclude that this area is also promising. Fall wheat yielded 11.1 bushels, fall rye 13 bushels and spring wheat 8 1/2 bushels and barley 10.8 bushels.

"On all farms the rates of seeding tests showed the highest yields in the case of the light seeding, indicating the wisdom of using small amounts of seed on dry farm lands. Also on land that produced crops in 1906, the yields were much smaller than on land that had been summer fallowed during that year; in fact, the difference is such as to indicate the wisdom of summer fallowing to accumulate moisture. On all farms the above returns were gained from fall sown grain, the early fall seeding being better than later fall seeding. As to the precipitation during the 1907 growing months—May, June, July and August—the figures this year do not show any perceptible amount above the normal.

### Immigration Is Heavy.

While no figures are obtainable, it is known that Montana's population has increased abnormally during the past few years, and the large majority of these persons are in the agricultural districts, which have for years been neglected. Eastern and northwestern Montana have been the chief gainers in this respect, but all sections have benefited to a greater or less degree. There are vast areas of Government land available, as well as land owned by the State, which is being taken up by prospective settlers. The State is unusually and efficiently situated in this respect, the Government at the time of

its admission having donated to it a grand total of 6,000,000 acres. The State in disposing of this land requires a payment of only 40 per cent, the remainder to be paid in fourteen installments. An interest of 5 per cent is charged on the deferred payments. The State has also adopted a system of leasing land, and to show the avidity with which the State's offers are being seized upon, it may be stated that it realized \$2,800,000 on sales and leases this year.

### Government Irrigation Projects.

The Government is installing a number of irrigation projects in this State which will result in the reclamation of countless thousands of acres. The Milk River project, one of the first made, secures an unusually large flow of water from St. Mary's lake, and will result in the reclamation of land from the lake to the eastern border of the State, a distance of several hundred miles. Splendid progress is making in this undertaking. The other projects, either completed or practically so, include the following: Marias, which affords a con-

necting link between St. Mary's basin and the lower Milk River valley, reclaiming 200,000 acres; Huntley project near Billings, which has been completed, reclaiming about 40,000 acres; the Sun river project, in northern Montana, which will reclaim 200,000 acres; the Fort Shaw project of 16,000 acres; Madison river project, 227,000 acres; and the Buford project, in eastern Montana, which will reclaim approximately 300,000 acres in Montana. In addition to these there are numerous private irrigation projects in practically every portion of the State.

### Cost of Irrigation.

Montana is unusually well supplied with water, which, as a rule, permits of the construction of ditches at a low cost. It is estimated that the cost of irrigation is about seventy-five cents an acre, and as the gross returns from barley, for instance, on a forty-acre tract amount to \$11,000, it is to be seen that a handsome profit is the result. The same is true of alfalfa and sugar beets, three crops of the former being the general rule, while the new factory at Billings paid out of revenues approximately

\$300,000 this year, and is working toward even greater areas.

### Livestock Industry.

The year has been little short of marvelous in the livestock industry. Montana is the greatest sheep State in the Union, with its herds totaling approximately 5,000,000 head, which produced 40,000,000 pounds of wool. The average price realized for the sale was about twenty cents a pound, making an income from this source alone of \$8,000,000, to say nothing of the receipts from the sale of sheep themselves. It is estimated that 500,000 cattle were shipped out of Montana this year and the average price received therefrom was in the vicinity of \$50 a head.

While it is unquestionably true, because of the great influx of settlers, the day of the big range is a thing of the past, yet it is true that more cattle are being raised in this State than ever before, for the reason that stock is now being fed instead of being left to drift for itself summer and winter on the range. Actual experience has proved that stock can be matured fully

a year earlier, with far greater safety and at a larger profit, than by the old system.

### Mining Industry.

William Walsh, the State mine inspector, has just completed his annual report, and it shows that there has been greatly renewed activity in every part of the State, and with the exception of Butte, therefore, referred to, conditions were never better. He estimates that upwards of 16,000 men are constantly employed in this industry, to say nothing of thousands engaged in other enterprises. Heavy falls of snow in the mountains furnish an abundance of water for placer gold mining districts for the many cyanide and hydraulic plants that have been in operation.

During the year Montana has maintained its position as the first of the leading precious metal-producing States of the Union. In the face of changing conditions, with the resultant periods of industrial activity and depression, the product of gold during the past ten years has shown a vigorous increase. When it is considered that the gold bearing lodes of this State have re-

ceived as much attention as compared with the interest exhibited by miners and capitalists of other precious metal producing States, the record is indeed great.

While silver is one of the chief metals produced in this State, it comes largely as a by-product of copper, gold and lead. A comparison of the mining industry during the present year with previous years shows a marked improvement. More mines are in operation, and a greater number of miners are employed. The report shows that the number of fatal accidents during the year was forty-two, and non-fatal twenty-one, a percentage of about 2. Among the more prominent districts which have shown unusual activity during the present year are Helena, Corbin, Cook City, Zortman, Dillon, Missoula and Basin.

It is probable that Montana will show a decrease of about 25 per cent in copper production this year; while gold, silver and lead will show a good gain. It is roughly estimated that the precious mineral output of Montana this year will amount to about \$20,000,000. A slight loss compared with last year.

## Orphans Home and Day Nursery

One of the most worthy charitable institutions in the city of Salt Lake is established at 1910 State street, and known as the Orphans Home and Day Nursery. It is here where mothers who are compelled to earn their living during the day can leave their little babes in loving and protecting hands while they toil for their sustenance. Those children who have neither father or mother are tenderly cared for until they are old enough to attend the public kindergarten schools, where they remain until they reach the school age. When the child has become old enough it is sent to the public school, and the Home clothes and feeds the little boys and girls until they have passed the eighth grade.

Equipped with a fair education, the youths are placed in some suitable employment, where they can follow the bent of their talent. At no time is the child allowed to feel its helpless condition in the world, and the social atmosphere which prevails in the usual orphan asylum is here notably absent. Children who have either father or mother, as far as possible, supported by their parents; the funds received in this manner, however, are merely nominal and of uncertain dependence.

The Day Nursery was established by Miss Elizabeth Dieckhoff October, 1884, as a place where mothers who were employed could leave their children during the day. The scope of the institution gradually grew larger, until it became an orphan's home. Some of those who joined in the work of the institution were missionaries from the Eastern States, assisted by old-time residents of

Utah. It was the first organization of its kind in Utah where children of all creeds were accepted and cared for, and its fame grew apace. After the death of Miss Dieckhoff, and when the home had moved to its present quarters on State street, Mrs. Rachel Miller became closely identified with it, acting for many years either as director or president. The good result accomplished by Mrs. Miller during these years cannot be too highly estimated.

In the year 1886 the Territorial Legislature made an appropriation of \$1000 toward the support of the institution, and in June, 1886, the old organization dissolved and the home was chartered under the name of the Orphans Home and Day Nursery. The organization was not fully completed, however, until January, 1887.

The nursery is supported by voluntary subscription and by various entertainments given from time to time. During its life the home has been the recipient of two bequests, one of \$500, from F. H. Auerbach, and one of \$600, from Mary Anderson, a woman who had been on State street, Mrs. Rachel Miller became a cook in mining camps. Mrs. Anderson made a will, giving the amount stated to two children of the home, whom Mrs. Isabel C. Brown would select upon their attaining the age of 18 years. Mrs. Brown chose Mary Van Dam and Katie Dunlap as the beneficiaries, and both young ladies received the sum of \$400 each upon reaching their majority. There are at the present time sixty children in the home, nearly all attending kindergarten and public schools.

One of the staunchest workers and supporters of the institution was Mrs. Isabel C. Brown, wife of the late United States Senator Brown, and it is freely acknowledged by those who are familiar with the early history of the home that it was she who saved the

institution from going out of existence during its infancy.

Last February the consolidation of the Infants Home and Day Nursery on 1 street and the Orphans Home and Day Nursery was accomplished. The former institution was modeled on the lines of the present institution, but it was deemed best for the sake of economy to house the two homes under one roof. In addition to the number of children stated above there are seven tiny infants who are cared for. It is the desire of the directors to build a wing on the main building, where infants can be reared and cared for, and this will be done as soon as the funds are available.

Since its organization the home has reared and cared for 2200 children, a remarkable record when the small building is considered. The present quarters are entirely inadequate. No doubt some philanthropic individual will render the desired assistance soon. The late Charles A. Molson, who met such an untimely death at Bear Lake, Ida., in November, was a frequent contributor to the institution, and just before leaving Salt Lake City on his fateful trip which cost him his life, he gave his check to the home for \$50.

Among the ladies who composed the old board of directors, and who devoted their time and energies to the furtherance of its growth, were: Helen McBride, Mrs. Hannah Travis, Mrs. Mary E. Gilmer, Mrs. Frank Kimball, Mrs. John J. Daly, Mrs. Nellie Palmer and Mrs. Bertha Bamberger. The present board consists of Mrs. Helen Sprague, president, and the following directors: Mrs. E. L. Thorne, Mrs. A. J. Gorham, Mrs. Sol Siegel, Mrs. M. E. Oglesby, Mrs. Ed Kimball, Mrs. F. S. Richards, Mrs. Rachael Miller, Mrs. George R. Hancock, Mrs. M. M. Johnson, Mrs. Charles W. Boyd and Mrs. A. Fred Weir.

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